

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE B. BURKE

April 11, 2006

The year 2006 marks the 20th annual "National Multicultural Cancer Awareness Week", initiated to bring attention to the unequal cancer burden for some ethnic and medically underserved populations. April 16th through April 22nd, 2006 is dedicated to the observance of "National Multicultural Cancer Awareness Week," which is focused this year on promoting the importance of colorectal cancer testing for all Californians.

African American males have the highest overall cancer rate; Asian/Pacific Islanders and Latinos have substantially higher rates of certain cancers such as liver and stomach cancer; and Asian/Pacific Islander and Latino women are more likely to develop and die from cervical cancer. African Americans also have the highest death rate from colorectal cancer of any racial or ethnic group in the United States and colorectal cancer is the second most common cancer in Latino men and women as well as Chinese men and women in California.

-MORE-

MOTION

MOLINA	_____
BURKE	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE B. BURKE

Page Two

April 11, 2006

Cancer screening holds a tremendous potential for preventing colorectal cancer and increasing survival rates for colorectal cancer patients, but most people are not getting screened. In 2001, only 42.8 percent of Californians over age 50 reported having had a sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy in the previous five years, and as a result only about 41 percent of colorectal cancers were diagnosed in the early stage.

The American Cancer Society is drawing attention to "National Multicultural Cancer Awareness Week" as part of its efforts to reduce cancer incidence and mortality rates among minority and medically underserved populations.

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Declare the week of April 16th, 2006 (through April 22nd, 2006) as "National Multicultural Cancer Awareness Week"; that the significant potential for saving lives through regular colorectal cancer screening is recognized, and that all citizens be urged to talk to their doctors about getting tested for colorectal cancer.

#

s:/smohamedy/2006/PatriciaMiller/Motion2006/"NationalMulticulturalCancerAwarenessWeek